

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
22 November, 1977

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 20 December, 1977
24 January, 1978

- B. Minutes of October 1977 meeting.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

- A. Architect of the Capitol

Capitol Enclave Master Plan - Phase II Report.

- B. National Park Service, National Capital Region

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, West Potomac Park -
Status Report.

- C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

South Sidewalk Area, Pennsylvania Avenue between 3rd &
4th Streets, N.W., Preliminary Plan and Material Selections.

- D. Smithsonian Institution

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Modifications to
Include Handicapped Access Ramp.

- E. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Columbarium, Arlington National Cemetery, Material
Samples - Resubmission.

- F. Department of the Army, Institute of Heraldry

Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

- G. D.C. Department of General Services

1. Georgetown Market Renovations, 3276 M Street, N.W.

2. Engine Company No. 12 Replacement, Rhode Island
Avenue & 5th Street, N.E., Resubmission.

22 November, 1977

H. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 78-13, 310 1st Street, S.E., Four-Story Addition to Existing Four-Story Building.'

2. SL 78-14, 326 1st Street, S.E., Demolition.

3. SL 78-15, 5196 27th Street, N.W., Two Single-Family Dwellings - Resubmission.

4. Appendix 2.

INSPECTIONS

D.C. Department of Economic Development

Shipstead-Luce Act

SL 78-12, 1889 F Street, N.W., New Office Building, Material Sample Panel.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

22 November, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 78-3	2605 P Street, N.W. Hideo Koga	16" round ceramic sign: "Taiko's Studio, Well-Come".
ACTION:	Issue permit. 11/3/77	
4	Prospect Street, N.W. Georgetown University	Housing for 510 students in approximately 126 units. Parking not required.
ACTION:	Approved as preliminary design. Request submission of working drawings and exterior material samples prior to issuance of permit. 11/15/77	
10	1335 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Au Pied du Cochon	Awning (resubmission refer to OG 77-189).
ACTION:	Issue permit for new masonry wall without side windows. Recommend roll-type awning at same pitch but a few inches lower than existing metal canopy. 11/3/77	
13	3017 M Street, N.W. Arthur Bernstein	1' x 8' wood sign, black and white, mounted on wall under second story windows, centered on building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 11/3/77	
14	3240 P Street, N.W. Roberta Sandman	Remove rotten section of front cornice of building. Change projecting cornice to flat fascia to follow pitch of roof. Remove existing tin roof and replace with asphalt shingles.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Alteration of existing design not recommended. Recommend repair of existing parapet wall, in order to preserve continuity of streetscape and adjoining row of houses. 11/3/77	
15	1024 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Georgetown Development Limited	Erect retaining wall per drawings (resubmission refer to OG 77-143).
ACTION:	Issue permit. See attached letter urging retention or incorporation of existing stone wall. 11/3/77	
16	3214 Prospect Street, N.W. D. King & J. Sandy	Demolition of garage.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Request submission of plans to screen parking from public space prior to issuance of permit. 11/16/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

22 November, 1977

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
SL 78-5	1889 F Street, N.W. Inter American Properties	Multi-story office building, single tenant (resubmission refer to SL 77-98).
ACTION:	Project design approved provided wall on east side of building, flanking sunken courtyard and sidewalk separating private residence on east, be further studied, possibly eliminating it altogether. Also request erection of sample brick panel on site for inspection by Commission of Fine Arts prior to final selection of exterior material by owners. Designs of penthouse to be resubmitted following any changes necessary to meet requirements imposed by Board of Zoning Adjustment or Municipal Planning Office review. 11/15/77	
6	1776 G Street, N.W. Robert T. Foley Company	Eight-story office building, street floor commercial, basement parking (resubmission refer to SL 77-117).
ACTION:	Issue permit. Working drawings approved. 10/21/77	
7	1851 Ingleside Terrace, N.W. E. R. Gardner	New kitchen (remodel old kitchen). Convert existing porches to living room and one bedroom.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 11/15/77	
10	330 A Street, S.E. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Cunningham	Interior renovation and two new bay windows and deck.
ACTION:	Not in Shipstead-Luce area. 11/15/77	
11	3151 Adams Mill Road, N.W. Clarence Wheeler	Change proposed front window to 6'0" x 6'8" sliding glass door (resubmission refer to SL 78-1).
ACTION:	Issue permit for revised design incorporating sliding glass door on front elevation of porch. No objection to installing similar glass opening on side elevation if desired by owner. 11/16/77	

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
22 November, 1977

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the offices of the Commission of Fine Arts at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Philip W. Buchen
 Hon. Victorine du Pont Homsey
 Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
 Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
 Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
 Ms. Nancy H. Noyes

National Capital Planning
Commission Staff Present: Mr. Robert Cosby

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. The next meeting dates were set for 20 December, 1977, and 24 January, 1978.

B. Minutes of the October 1977 meeting were approved.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. Architect of the Capitol

Capitol Enclave Master Plan - Phase Two Report. The Architect of the Capitol, Hon. George White, AIA, and his assistant, Mr. David Kunhardt, were welcomed by the Chairman, the Secretary, and the members. Mr. White told the Commission that he had been working with top advisors to come up with techniques for developing a master plan for the buildings and space necessary to serve the changing needs of Congress. The present master planning effort was really the first comprehensive look at the Capitol Hill layout as a whole since the McMillan Commission had made its recommendations early in the 20th century. He reported that there were space needs, urban design considerations, and historic preservation necessities involved in the planning effort. As such it was an effort requiring much balance and input from groups such as the Commission of Fine Arts. He then showed the Commission slides depicting alternatives based primarily on north-south axial growth generally from Union Station to the Southeast

Freeway and Virginia Avenue railroad right-of-way. He then discussed the need to eliminate some of the private parking on the Hill as well as the necessity of providing a "people mover" system to carry Congressmen and the public throughout the complex. Efforts to the south would be based on cleaning up a haphazard industrial area; to the north several new Senate buildings would cluster around those now existing. Displacement of the Taft Memorial to provide a buildings site at Louisiana and Constitution Avenues was one possibility. Mr. White indicated that space problems and some potential change in the structure of the Supreme Court may make moving that facility from Capitol Hill desirable. He indicated that a new monumental judicial complex would be the probable direction of that effort.

Mr. White asked the Commission for their questions or comments, with the Chairman responding that the Commission was delighted to have had the opportunity for meeting and would hope to send on some comments in the near future.

B. National Park Service, National Capital Region

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, West Potomac Park, Status Report and Sculpture Selection. The project was represented by Mr. Lawrence Halprin, landscape architect; Eugene Keogh, Chairman of the FDR Memorial Commission' and Joseph Ronsisvalle of the Park Service. The Chairman welcomed Mr. Keogh, who briefly indicated his Commission's endorsement of the project and his hopes for a Commission of Fine Arts approval. Mr. Keogh then introduced Mr. Halprin, who presented slides and drawings. The Chairman asked that differences between the design given preliminary approval and the present design be discussed in terms of change and the detail development asked for by the Commission. Mr. Halprin indicated that design development has been progressing very slowly due to the need for determining what sculptors and which quarry would be used. He indicated that the design was a joint process and that development of details would begin soon. The Chairman clearly indicated the Commission of Fine Arts' desire to review all details of the project at an early stage, allowing enough time for thorough interchange between parties involved. Mr. Halprin concurred. Mr. Halprin then gave a slide talk on the process of selecting and working with a group of sculptors, including George Segal, Leonard Baskin, Robert Graham, and Neil Estren. The Commission found the process and suggestions reasonable, but did ask to follow through on details, models, etc. as developed. EXHIBIT A

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

South Sidewalk Area, Pennsylvania Avenue between 3rd & 4th Streets, N.W., Preliminary Plan and Material Selection. The Secretary presented drawings and brick samples for the area next to the National Gallery of Art Addition, indicating that the Corporation was expecting

to start this project in the near future in order to complete it by the June 1st opening of the new Pei-designed structure. He then introduced Mr. W. Anderson Barnes, new Director of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Mr. Barnes greeted the Commission, indicating his hopes of cooperation in the interest of progress on Pennsylvania Avenue. He introduced Mr. Leland Allen, the PADC chief designer. Mr. Allen indicated that the samples comprised a range being considered for the brick sidewalk paving along the entire Avenue. Since the details and exact brick had not been selected, the presentation should be a discussion with the final selection discussed on December 20. The Commission commented on the material samples, with a consensus that a brown range was better than either a red or yellowish. The Chairman and other members suggested that different sizes and shapes be considered in the final design recommendations. The problems of dealing with diagonals, borders, manholes, tree spaces, etc. throughout the Avenue were discussed. Mr. Allen indicated that a sample panel would be laid at the corner of 4th and Constitution prior to any final choice.

D. Smithsonian Institution

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Modifications to Include Handicapped Access Ramp. The project was represented by Phillip K. Reiss of the Smithsonian and Lester Collins, the landscape architect. Mr. Reiss indicated that the handicapped access, exhibit functions, and paving had all been reexamined with the decision to alter the original design. Mr. Reiss introduced Mr. Collins, who described the project, indicating that ramps were being proposed in place of the northern entrance stair, while more shade, grass, and hard paving were being introduced. The Commission examined the material and had a general discussion with Mr. Collins. The members finally ruled that they had no objection to the proposed alterations, but would like to see more detail on how they would affect the Mall, the 8th Street cross axis, and the face of the Gallery. The Chairman indicated that a project of this importance should probably have a model and elevation drawings showing the vertical impact of proposed tree planting. More details of handrails, stonework, and material samples would also be helpful. The Commission unanimously asked for more information and withheld action.

EXHIBIT B

E. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Columbarium, Arlington National Cemetery, Material Samples - Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings, a model, and material samples, reminding the Commission that they had approved the design in October, but not the sandblasted concrete exterior finish then proposed. The architect, Mr. Basil Rousos, then presented drawings and samples of an exterior limestone treatment which the Commission unanimously approved.

EXHIBIT C

F. Department of the Army, Institute of Heraldry

Defense Meritorious Service Medal. Ms. Noyes presented color drawings of the proposed medal which the members examined and unanimously approved.

EXHIBIT D

G. D.C. Department of General Services

1. Georgetown Market Renovations, 3276 M Street, N.W. The project was represented by Mr. Charles Pavlick of the Department; Mr. Richard Ridley, the architect; and Mr. John Zimmerman, the developer. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings, photographs, and a model of the proposed restoration of the Georgetown Market. He pointed out the market in one of the Commission's own publications, indicating that the 1860's structure was one of the most historic in Georgetown and that it was being surrounded by large-scale development previously reviewed by the Commission. Exterior public space was proposed for clean up while the old building's exterior would have authentic restoration. To be used for market and retail, all new functions in the way of trash compactor, elevator, and fire stairs would be held to the rear and encased in a glassed addition. The Georgetown Board had examined the project and recommended it for approval subject to additional study or articulation. The Commission examined the material and discussed the design and details with the architect and the developer. The Commission commended the District Government on its efforts to restore the building as a market. They found the rear addition unacceptable for a historic structure of that importance, however, suggesting that the ideal solution would be to incorporate all such elements within the building. Mr. Stone stated that if the addition were unavoidable, making it more transparent and light might help. The Commission unanimously disapproved the design of the rear addition, but approved the restoration and public space proposals.

EXHIBIT E

2. Engine Company No. 12 Replacement, Rhode Island Avenue & 5th Street, N.E. - Resubmission. The project was represented by Mr. Charles Pavlick of the Department and architect Leon Brown. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings showing the preliminary design previously approved by the Commission, indicating that they had asked for further study of the window grills. The architect was present to discuss the final designs for window grills, indicating that they were anodized aluminum and would be mounted outside and away from the actual windows. The Commission discussed the matter with the architect and Mr. Pavlick, and unanimously approved the design.

EXHIBIT F

H. D.C. Department of Economic DevelopmentOld Georgetown Act

Appendix 1, approved.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 78-13, 310 First Street, S.E., Four-Story Side Addition to Existing Four-Story Building. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs and drawings of the proposal, indicating that the Commission had approved the concept for extending this neo-Georgian building some time ago. The proposal now included the demolition of a small building on the corner of the block at 326 First Street, S.E. (see SL 78-14). The architect, Mr. Karl Ernst, indicated that the project was in harmony with the Commission's earlier comments, but that the demolition was part of efforts to increase the size of the project. The Commission examined the material and indicated their general concurrence with the design of the building, but that no approval could be given until the issue of the demolition was cleared. An extension was requested from the District of Columbia Government to allow this.
2. SL 78-14, 326 First Street, S.E., Demolition. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs of this small 19th century building with a surrounding porch, some scrollwork, and a tar-paper shingle covering. He indicated that its demolition was required to accommodate the addition to 310 First Street, S.E. (see SL 78-13). The Commission examined the photographs, questioning the demolition on the basis of the materials submitted. They would need more information on the structure prior to any further discussion. The application was unanimously disapproved on the basis of insufficient information.
3. SL 78-15, 5196 27th Street, N.W., Two Single-Family Dwellings - Resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs and drawings tracing the history of this project which had initially included three houses. The wooded site on the edge of Rock Creek Park had been limited to two houses after discussion between the Commission and the developer, Mr. Charles Covell. Robert Corcoran, the architect, told the Commission of efforts to save trees and blend the new natural wood dwellings into the landscape. The Assistant Secretary pointed out a letter from the next-door neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Bolotin, objecting to the four-floor height being proposed as excessive and voicing concern for the preservation of small as well as large foliage existing on the site. The members discussed the project with Mr. Corcoran, who assured them that the developer intended to use extreme caution in protecting the site both by design and for commercial value. The members determined that the houses were a reasonable height and size, and approved them unanimously.

4. Appendix 2, approved.

III. INSPECTIONS

D.C. Department of Economic DevelopmentShipstead-Luce Act

SL 78-12, 1889 F Street, N.W., New Office Building, Material Sample Panel. Prior to leaving the Commission offices, the Secretary told the members that four brick and mortar panels had been erected on the site of the office building given preliminary approval subject to material sample approval and redesign of a garden pergola-wall detail. Two of the samples were the orange, hard-faced brick questioned in October, and two were a dark mixed-range brick. Several mortar colors were used, two blending with the brick colors and two in a greyish tint. Through her attorney and a letter, the next-door neighbor, Mrs. R. L. Bacon, had requested that the Commission and the developer consider a fifth material, a Calvert Rose brick to match a piece of adjacent wall on the nearby Bender Building.

The Commission went to the site with the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and Mrs. Bacon's attorney, Mr. William Hannon. The members examined all of the samples and were then joined by the architect, Mr. Lewis Goetz. The samples were all disapproved with a suggestion that additional samples be erected more in the range of Calvert Rose. The members pointed out that most other buildings in the vicinity were light in color and that a rose-colored brick with tinted mortar would probably be best for the total environment, as well as Mrs. Bacon's historic house.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

9 December, 1977

Dear Jack,

During our presentation of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial at our meeting on November 22, 1977, it was emphasized that the material was being presented as a status report on the design and that no specific action was being requested.

It is now our understanding that the Park Service would like to have a report on the Commission's reactions to the design, since additional funds will soon be committed to developing the scheme, and it would be helpful to have the Commission's views before proceeding any further.

Mr. Halprin's presentation primarily focused on the sculptural elements of the memorial: the selection of artists, the placement and theme of the various pieces to be included, and the general character of these pieces as envisioned by the artists. We feel that on the basis of the preliminary sketches that have been developed so far, the Commission can do no more than to approve the architect's approach. The artists he has selected to participate in the design process are certainly qualified, and their ideas at this stage appear to be reasonable. The casting of all their individual pieces in bronze should also help to give their stylistic differences a common denominator and provide the unity that is so important to the memorial. So it appears to us that further development of the sculptural elements can be pursued.

On the development of the architectural details, however, we would like to sound a note of caution. Even though the drawings presented to the Commission were relatively small in scale, it was apparent that there were changes in the geometry of much of the stonework, in particular the waterfalls and pools. There was evidence of a much more rustic treatment than has been shown on previous designs. The key to the FDR Memorial design from the very start has been repose, and every effort should be made to reinforce this quality throughout the design.

December, 1977

2.

We look forward to reviewing the design in February, when we understand the Park Service will be presenting the design for approval.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish, Jr.
Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

22 November, 1977

Dear Mr. Reiss:

The Commission of Fine Arts was glad to review preliminary designs for modifications to the Hirshhorn sculpture garden at its meeting on November 22, 1977.

We feel there was insufficient information on which to evaluate the design. An accurate scale model, including planting, should be prepared for our next review. In addition, please furnish sections through the site showing the two new ramps, and some well-detailed drawings of the railings and other new elements to be introduced in the garden.

We will be happy to review these materials at our next meeting, which is scheduled for 20 December, 1977.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Phillip K. Reiss
Director
Office of Facilities Planning
and Engineering Services
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

22 November, 1977

Dear Mr. Garrett:

The Commission of Fine Arts was pleased to approve revised material samples for the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium at its meeting on November 22, 1977.

The walls will be finished in "Ilci Old Gothic" sawn finish limestone panels, capped with clear and smooth "select grade" limestone block on top of the walls. The same "select grade" limestone will be used on the grave marker panels enclosing the individual niches.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Lee S. Garrett
Chief, Engineering Division
Military Construction
Department of the Army
Office of the Chief of Engineers
Washington, D.C. 20314

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

22 November, 1977

Dear Colonel Baxter:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on November 22, 1977, was pleased to approve designs for the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", written in a cursive style.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Colonel D. K. Baxter
Director
Institute of Heraldry
Department of the Army
Cameron Station
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

November 22, 1977

Dear Mr. Starobin:

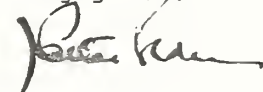
The Commission of Fine Arts enthusiastically approved the concept of restoring the old Georgetown Market during its November 22, 1977 meeting. Refurbishing this building, cleaning up, and developing the public space around it without parking is very much in the public interest. It is a project long hoped for by this Commission and the community. We certainly encourage you to move ahead in restoring the market and the public space involved. We understand the time pressures involved as well as the importance of the whole project to the historic district.

Our official approval extends to the restoration of the building itself and its immediate surroundings, but does not at this time include the appendage proposed for the south end of the building. We believe the new mechanical and access elements should be incorporated within the existing building.

We would consider alternative proposals, such as a glassy unit set away from the building perhaps a full bay, allowing a maximum view of the existing facade, with a minimum disruption to the forms established by the roof-slope and proportions of the historic structure. We cannot at this time, however, guarantee that any solution other than incorporating the additional elements inside could be considered acceptable to the historic preservation of the original structure.

The Commission, its staff, and the Georgetown Board look forward to working with the District Government and the developer in every way that will expedite the best possible results.

Sincerely yours,


J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Sam D. Starobin, Director
Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

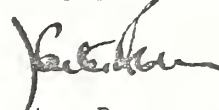
708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

22 November, 1977

Dear Mr. Starobin:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved final details for Engine Company No. 12 Replacement at Rhode Island Avenue and 5th Street, N.E. during its November 22, 1977 meeting. The Commission appreciates the efforts by the architect and the Department to come up with the studies necessary to insure a first-rate result.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Sam D. Starobin
Director
Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

23 November, 1977

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

The Commission considered revised designs for the Marian Anderson medal at its meeting on November 22, 1977.

We recommend further study of revised scheme number two, focusing especially on the following changes:

- o the hands should support the earth from below;
- o the relief of the wrists and arms should be gradually diminished and merged with the background field of the medal;
- o the sun should be omitted, but the rays of the sun can be retained, radiating from the top right area of the field, but should be rendered in an abstract way;
- o the clouds should be omitted.

The Commission will be meeting again on 20 December, and we will be happy to review the revised designs at that time.

Our staff will be available informally before then.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Frank H. MacDonald
Acting Director of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220



